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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLYCOUNTRY AustriaREPORT NO.           TOPIC Communist Party Functionary Commenting on a Possible Withdrawal  
of Soviet Occupation Troops from Austria

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EVALUATION           PLACE OBTAINED           

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DATE OF CONTENT           DATE OBTAINED           DATE PREPARED 27 January 1950REFERENCES           PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)           REMARKS             
            
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SOURCE

SCHUELLER, chief editor of the Communist newspaper Neue Zeit  
in LINZ-URFAHR stated at a staff conference:

a. At the present time, a State Treaty with Austria will not be concluded. Although the Western Powers are endeavoring/have the Soviet Troops withdrawn from Austria, this does not fit into the Soviet plan. It is understood that there will still be several possibilities for maintaining Soviet troops in Austria, even if the Austrian State Treaty should be signed. One of these possibilities would be the staging of incidents involving Austrian and Soviet authorities. The Soviet Union will, under no circumstances, leave her position in Austria to the West.

b. Some time ago conferences were held by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Austria (KPOe) and the Soviet commandant of VIENNA with a view to transferring the power of control for the observance of stipulations of the peace treaty to the KPOe in case the Soviet troops should withdraw from Austria. At these conferences the Central Committee suggested the creation of instances proving the non-observance of the stipulations of the State Treaty after the withdrawal of the Soviet troops, and the engineering of incidents which would justify an intervention by Soviet forces from the Czech area. A small-scale coup d'état should perhaps be staged. This suggestion was refused by the Soviets who considered it insecure. The Soviets would continue to apply their procrastination tactics in regard to the State Treaty in order to retain their occupation troops in Austria.

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